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PATENT APPLICATION

AUG 15 2000

TC 2700 MAIL ROOM

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

KITAHIRO KANEDA

Application No.: 09/212,717

Filed: December 16, 1998

For: COMMUNICATION SYSTEM
AND CONTROL METHOD
THEREOF, AND
COMPUTER-READABLE
MEMORY

Examiner: M. Dastouri

Group Art Unit: 2723

August 10, 2000

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

In response to the July 18, 2000 Restriction Requirement, Applicant hereby elects to prosecute Group II, namely, Claims 16-24 and 36-50. The election is made with traverse.

In this regard, Applicant submits that the claims in Groups I-V, while differing in specific claim language, are nonetheless all directed to similar inventive subject matter, therefore making restriction between these claims improper. That is, the claims in Groups I-V are all directed to a communication system for transmitting the result of a manuscript character recognition. Since all the claims in the application are directed to similar inventive subject matter, Applicant submits that restriction of the

claims would not be an undue burden for the Examiner to conduct a similar search for all the claims. For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the restriction requirement and current examination of the claims in Groups I-V.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicant

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